

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An image printing apparatus, comprising:
 - a conveyance-printing section for printing on a recording medium sheet;
 - a first printing device including a plurality of first printing heads mounted above the conveyance-printing section and aligned perpendicular to a conveyance direction of the recording medium sheet for jetting a first set of image-setting ink drops onto the recording medium sheet for printing;
 - a second printing device including a plurality of second printing heads mounted above the conveyance-printing section and aligned perpendicular to the conveyance direction of the recording medium sheet for jetting a second set of image-setting ink drops, respectively, onto the recording medium sheet for printing, the second printing device arranged downstream from the first printing device with respect to the conveyance direction of the recording medium sheet;
 - a first light radiating device mounted above the conveyance-printing section and arranged downstream from the first printing device and upstream from the second printing device with respect to the conveyance direction of the recording medium sheet for radiating ultraviolet rays to harden surfaces of the first set of image-setting ink drops jetted from the first printing device before the second set of image-setting ink drops are jetted from the second printing device; and

a second light radiating device mounted above the conveyance-printing section and arranged downstream from the second printing device with respect to the conveyance direction of the recording medium for radiating the ultraviolet rays to harden surfaces of the second set of image-setting ink drops jetted from the second printing device, and to completely harden the first set of image-setting ink drops previously jetted from the first printing device,

wherein the first printing device and the second printing device are selected from:

a combination of the devices having the plurality of first printing heads as black printing heads for jetting the first set of image-setting ink drops, the first image-setting ink drops being image-setting black ink drops, and having the plurality of second printing heads as color printing heads for jetting the second set of image-setting ink drops, the second set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting cyan, magenta, and yellow color ink drops, and

a combination of the devices having the plurality of first printing heads as color printing heads for jetting the first set of image-setting ink drops, the first set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting cyan, magenta, and yellow color ink drops, and having the plurality of second printing heads as black printing heads for jetting the second set of image-setting ink drops, the second set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting black ink drops.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The image printing apparatus in claim [[6]]1, wherein energy of the ultraviolet rays radiated from the second light radiating device is greater than energy of the ultraviolet rays radiated from the first light radiating device, in case the combination of the devices, having the plurality of first printing heads as black printing heads for jetting the first set of image-setting ink drops, the first set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting black ink drops, and having the plurality of second printing heads as color printing heads for jetting the second set of image-setting ink drops, the second set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting cyan, magenta, and yellow color ink drops, is selected.

5. (Currently amended) The image printing apparatus in claim [[7]]1, wherein energy of the ultraviolet rays radiated from the first light radiating device is greater than energy of the ultraviolet rays radiated from the second light radiating device, in case the combination of the devices, having the plurality of first printing heads as color printing heads for jetting the first set of image-setting ink drops, the first set of image-setting ink drops being image-setting cyan, magenta, and yellow color ink drops, and having the plurality of second printing heads as black printing heads for jetting the second set of image-setting ink drops, the second image-setting ink drops being image-setting black ink drops, is selected.

6-7. (Canceled)